



## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

12 OCTOBER 2017

---

### (U) CALIFORNIA

#### (U) Santa Rosa – Communication Difficult as Wildfires Knock Out Cell Towers

(U) The wildfires raging through Northern California have also knocked out cell phone service, making it more difficult for people to call for and get help, and for families to locate loved ones. This past Sunday night, Sonoma County dispatchers were flooded with calls for help. Sonoma County Sheriff Rob Giordono admits that warning people, even with an automated calling system, was difficult. Seventy-seven cell towers went down during the fire. Of the 77 cell towers knocked out, 64 have been fixed.

SOURCE: 11 October 2017, [CBS News](#)

### (U) NATIONAL

#### (U) Maryland – Eight Men Charged in Gang Conspiracy

(U) Greenbelt – Eight young men have been charged for their alleged roles in a gang racketeering. The US Attorney's Office said in a news release yesterday that the men were named in a superseding indictment that a federal grand jury returned last month. The men, who range in age from 18 through 22, are alleged to be members of MS-13. The indictment says they were members and associates of MS-13 who planned and committed homicides, drug and gun trafficking, and extortion.

SOURCE: 11 October 2017, [Associated Press](#)

#### (U) Vermont – Fifteen Central Americans Caught in Alleged Human Smuggling Case

(U) Derby – A Honduran man was charged in the US District Court of Vermont yesterday with transporting 15 illegal immigrants to the US through Canada. The US Attorney's Office charged 25-year-old Hector Ramon Perez-Alvarado after Border Patrol officials said he allegedly drove 11 Guatemalans and four Mexicans, including two who had been deported multiple times, from the Canadian border to a hotel in Derby, according to a US Customs and Border Protection statement. The smuggler, Perez-Alvarado, faces up to 75 years in prison and a \$3.75 million fine.

SOURCE: 11 October 2017, [Washington Examiner](#)

#### (U) Washington – Outlook Bug Meant Emails Were Sent Unencrypted for Months

(U) Redmond – A bug in Microsoft Outlook meant that sensitive emails supposed to be scrambled with Secure/Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions (S/MIME) encryption before they were sent may have also been mistakenly sent in unencrypted plaintext. The bug let plaintext-formatted encrypted mails be sent in both encrypted and unencrypted forms. Those unencrypted messages could have exposed secret or sensitive communications for months. Encrypting emails ensures the authenticity of the message's contents in addition to protecting the contents. Microsoft fixed the bug on 10 October as part of its monthly release of security fixes.

SOURCE: 11 October 2017, [ZDNet](#)

**(U) INTERNATIONAL**

**(U) Iraq – Suicide Bomber Strikes Cafe**

(U) Hit – Iraqi authorities say a suicide bomber has struck a cafe in the western city of Hit, killing 11 people. The city's security bureau says 15 other people were wounded in yesterday's blast, and that the victims are all civilians. A temporary curfew was declared in the area. There was no claim of responsibility for the bombing; however, Iraqi security forces continue to battle ISIS militants in the far western edge of the largely desert province.

SOURCE: 11 October 2017, [Associated Press](#)

**(U) Pakistan – American Woman Rescued from Terrorist Custody**

(U) Islamabad – Pakistani troops have rescued a Canadian man, his American wife, and their three children from terrorist custody following a tip from US intelligence agencies. Caitlan Coleman, 32, was seven months pregnant when she and her husband, Josh Boyle, were abducted. The couple were kidnapped in Afghanistan in 2012 and US intelligence told Pakistan that the hostages had been moved over the border into northwestern Pakistan, according to an army statement. It did not say when the rescue took place.

SOURCE: 12 October 2017, [Reuters](#)

**(U) Syria – British ISIS Member Killed in Airstrike**

(U) Raqqa – A British member of ISIS known for her regular propaganda on social media is believed to have been killed in an airstrike, along with her 12-year-old son. Sally Jones—dubbed “the white widow” by some in the press—had more than 20 handles on Twitter but there has been no activity from her in recent months. She travelled from the UK to Syria in 2013 to join her husband and fellow Briton Junaid Hussain, who was killed in a US drone strike in 2015. Jones used her social media accounts to recruit women to ISIS and provided practical advice on how to travel to Syria. She also encouraged individuals to carry out attacks in Britain, offering guidance on how to construct home-made bombs, and shared pictures of herself posing with weapons.

SOURCE: 11 October 2017, [The Guardian](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-636-2900.**

*Warning: This document is the exclusive property of the State Threat Assessment Center (STAC) and is UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (U//FOUO). It contains information that may be exempt from public release under the California Public Records Act (Govt. Code Sec. 6250-6270). It is to be controlled, stored, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with STAC policy relating to U//FOUO information and is not to be released to the public, the media, or other personnel who do not have a valid "need-to-know" without prior approval of an authorized STAC official. No portion of this report should be furnished to the media, either in written or verbal form.*

*This document contains excerpts of suspicious activities and incidents of interest to the STAC as obtained from open and unclassified sources.*